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MESSAGE

—OF—

HIS EXCELLENCY

O. VINCENT COFFIN,

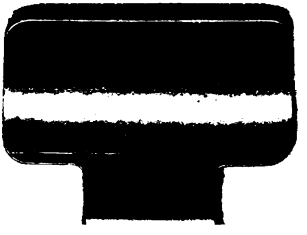
GOVERNOR OF CONNECTICUT,

—TO THE—

GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

JANUARY SESSION, 1895.

MIDDLETOWN, CONN.:
PELTON & KING, PRINTERS AND BOOKBINDERS.
1895.



GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

Mr. President and Members of the General Assembly:

In directing as to what duties the Governor shall discharge, the Constitution of Connecticut, Article Fourth, Section 8, provides as follows:

"He shall, from time to time, give to the General Assembly information of the state of the Government, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall deem expedient."

In accordance with this requirement of the Constitution, I have the honor of submitting for such attention and action as you may deem timely and appropriate, the facts and suggestions which follow:

FINANCE.

The report of the Treasurer, covering two years, from September 30th, 1892, to September 30th, 1894, indicates as follows:

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand September 30, 1892, - - - -		$924,417 44
Received during the year ending September 30, 1893, - - - -	$2,290,952 26	
Received during the year ending September 30, 1894, - - - -	1,912,138 52	
		$4,203,090.78
Total, - - - - - - - - - -		$5,127,508 22

The receipts of the year ending September 30, 1893, included the sum of $261,981.90, being the amount paid by the

State as a direct tax during the war and refunded by the United States Government.

EXPENDITURES.

For the year ending September 30, 1893,	$2,361,967 96
For the year ending September 30, 1894,	2,027,122 10
Total,	$4,389,090 15
Leaving cash balance October 1, 1894, of	$738,418 07
It will thus be seen that for the first year of the period covered, the expenditures exceeded the receipts by the sum of	$71,015 70
And for the second year,	114,983 67
Showing a decrease of cash balance from the operations of the two years, of	$185,999 37

THE FUNDED DEBT.

The Funded Debt is $3,240,200, of which $200, long since due, and bearing no interest, is still unclaimed; $1,500,000 3½ per cent. bonds will fall due in 1903, and $1,740,000 3 per cent. bonds in 1910.

THE GRAND LIST.

The Grand List, as reported October 1, 1891, amounted to	$372,874,447 00
For October 1, 1893, the amount reported is	416,323,352 00
Showing an increase for the two years of	$43,448,805 00

The repeal of the law requiring estimates to be made by the Treasurer of probable expenditures explains the omission of the usual statement in that connection.

SCHOOL FUND.

The report of the Commissioner of the School Fund contains much that is both interesting and important.

The amount of the fund September 30, 1892, was	$2,012,169 54
September 30, 1893, was	2,014,449 41
September 30, 1894, was	2,011,768 28
The number of children enumerated for the year 1892 was	167,809
And for the year 1893, was	169,457
The dividend paid from the School Fund to the towns for 1892, amounted to	$125,856 75
And for 1893, to	127,092 75
The expenses of management for two years ending September 30, 1894, were	$21,786 48

This is a larger cost than the average during recent years, owing to exceptional circumstances mentioned in the report. The losses on real estate taken by foreclosure in earlier years and sold since January 4th, 1882,

Amount to - - - - - - - - - -	$76,449 90
And old losses on bank stock were - - - -	9,930 00
Making a total of - - - - - - - -	$86,379 90

Appropriations to make up the deficiency caused by these losses, have been made and paid by the State, to the extent of $82,106.45.

The Commissioner states that present investments of the Department are sound. A large amount due for interest on loans is unpaid and legal proceedings have, in some cases, been instituted for foreclosure of mortgages.

A gain of $7,068.54 has been made, but not yet credited to the fund, on some property sold. Through the dishonesty of an agent of borrowers in the State of Ohio, the fund will suffer a loss which it is thought will not prove to be large. The unfavorable results mentioned are probably to be repeated from time to time, to some extent, so long as the State continues in the business of lending money.

An observation made below as to investments in the stock of National Banks by Savings Banks, applies with equal force to the School Fund.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

Savings Banks have apparently maintained their sound condition to a gratifying degree. The business of the year 1894, according to the report of the Bank Commissioners, has been entirely satisfactory. No large losses have occurred; usual rates of interest have been paid; deposits increased by the sum of about three million dollars, and some improvement is shown as to several points which you will find fully indicated in the report. Light losses are probably to be suffered by a few banks through the failure of private bankers in New York. The Commissioners state that the officers of these banks were warned by them in season to avoid loss, but the warning was not heeded.

The deposits amount to - - - - -	$136,928,858 49
Besides surplus and accumulated profits of - -	8,944,962 09
Giving a total of - - - - - -	$145,873,820 58

The number of depositors is given as 337,254, equal to nearly one-half the entire population of the State. The number of individuals owning deposits is probably very much smaller than the figures given, as it is a common thing for one person to have deposits in several, frequently in many, different banks. This fact may impair the accuracy of other statistics given in the report.

The suggestion of the Commissioners as to the revaluation of real estate upon which loans have been made, is important in proportion to the lack, on the part of bank managers, of adequate care and watchfulness as to changes in values of such property, and is worthy of consideration. It has long been my conviction that Savings Banks ought not to be allowed to invest their deposits in the stock of National Banks, for one, of several reasons, that there is a liability, not only to loss of the amount invested, but of a further sum equal to the par value of the stock owned.

State Banks and Trust Companies are reported to be in sound condition. One bank has suffered loss through a dishonest clerk, who has been sent to the State Prison.

There are eight banks having an aggregate capital of	$2,340,000 00
With surplus and undivided profits of - - -	777,385 02
	$3,117,385 02
There are ten Trust Companies having a capital of -	$1,186,600 00
And surplus earnings and undivided profits amounting to - - - - - - - - - -	752,484 08
	$1,939,084 08

Investment Companies selling Western Loans in this State, under our present law, are subjected to examination by our Bank Commissioners or their deputies. The report of the Commissioners will show a large withdrawal of these companies from the State, and this, with the failure of several large companies, will throw the burden of expense of examination upon a few, which, it is thought, will then also withdraw. The Commissioners therefore make certain recommendations relative to a revision of the present law, in order to meet existing conditions. The large interest of Connecticut people in this class of investments, indicates the importance to be attached to any recommendation made by the Commissioners in this connection.

INSURANCE.

The Life Insurance Companies of Connecticut are among the very best of their respective kinds to be found anywhere in the world. There are six so-called old-line companies, whose total assets January 1, 1894, (the latest date to which we have exact information,) amounted to $128,162,288. The number of companies doing business on the new line, or assessment plan, is 7, and their assets amounted to $6,167,210. The whole amount of insurance by old-line companies, in force in Connecticut, on the date named, was $91,159,052, an increase of over $9,000,000 during that year, and the amount carried by assessment companies was nearly $30,000,000, making a total of over $120,000,000. The amount done by those excellent benevolent orders, a prominent feature of whose work is that of insuring the lives of their members for the benefit of their families, not being a matter of public report or information, cannot be even approximately estimated, but undoubtedly reaches many millions of dollars.

The Fire Insurance Companies of the State have fully maintained their well-earned position in the front rank of institutions of their kind. During the year 1893, 112 companies, with cash assets of $211,277,954, were engaged in business in this State, of which 25, with cash assets of $34,117,411, were home corporations. While the year was one of severity to the interests of all these companies, their business in Connecticut showed favorable results—increase of premiums and decrease of losses—as compared with the previous year. The amount of insurance written, increased nearly $8,000,000. I know of no existing statistics accessible to the public, showing, or from which can be learned, the amount of fire insurance in force on Connecticut property; and I would suggest, therefore, that such change in the law be made as will provide for obtaining and publishing this obviously important information. From such figures as are now accessible, it seems probable that the amount of fire insurance in force in Connecticut largely exceeds $300,000,000, being a total of more than three-fourths the amount of the Grand List of the State. If you can devise some reasonable method by which companies located in other States, not authorized to do business here, which neither submit to the provisions of our law, nor share with other similar

corporations, legally here, their proper portion of the public burdens, can be made to comply with the conditions observed by others, you will render just and important service. Any legislation, in itself proper and desirable, tending to bring our laws into harmony with those of other States, will, beyond doubt, promote the common interest.

In his report the Insurance Commissioner will probably recommend many changes in the law, and perhaps a general revision of all the laws relating to the insurance business. I ask your thoughtful consideration of any and all recommendations that may be made by him.

Policies of insurance against fire to the amount of millions of dollars are held by our savings banks as collateral security for their loans; and in many other directions the business of fire and life insurance companies, in a vitally important way, and to a great extent, stands exceedingly close to the interests of all the people. The amount of fire insurance in force in this country is probably not less than $17,000,000,000.

Besides the life and fire insurance companies referred to, there are in this State two Steam Boiler Insurance Companies, with assets on the first day of January, 1893, amounting to $1,865,188.66.

The report also shows that there are, doing business in Connecticut, two Fidelity and Casualty, one Tobacco Growers', and four Plate Glass Insurance Companies, designed to furnish such protection as is indicated by their respective names. In the important branch of insurance against accident, Connecticut holds a leading place, and is the home of the leading company. As the reports to the Insurance Commissioner are made for the calendar year, statistics for the year 1894 are not yet available.

RAILROADS.

The length of railroad in the State, counting by single track, is about 1,650 miles.

The amount of capital stock is about - - -	$90,000,000 00
The amount of bonded and other indebtedness is about	54,250,000 00
Gross earnings during the year were about - -	32,500,000 00
Net earnings, - - - - - - - - - -	9,128,000 00
Taxes paid by railroad companies to the State during the year, amounted to about - - - - -	733,000 00

Or more than one-third the receipts of the State from all sources.

The number of employés injured during the year was 194, less than half the number, 504, of the previous year. The number of persons employed in connection with railroads in the State is about 24,500, and any reasonable legislation or regulation which adds to their personal safety in the discharge of their frequently hazardous duties, is to be welcomed. Grade crossings were reduced in number by 27 during the year, 26 being on the lines of the New York, New Haven & Hartford R. R. Company. The energy and liberality of that company in this direction are worthy of strong commendation. A new and very serious danger is now arising in connection with the extensive construction of electric highway railways. The present law should be at once so amended as to prohibit the crossing of steam and electric lines at grade.

AGRICULTURE.

Storrs Agricultural College, as its name implies, is devoted chiefly to studies bearing directly upon agricultural pursuits. It is situated in the town of Mansfield and admits boys and girls "whose parents are citizens of this State." Its regular course of study covers a period of three years, but those who can pass a satisfactory examination in certain elementary branches, are allowed to complete the course in two years. The total cost per year per student, is about $120 to $125 plus a tuition fee of $25, which latter is remitted in worthy cases. The work of the school for the past year has been hampered by its crowded condition. The reports of the Trustees and members of the Faculty will bring the need of greater facilities to your attention, and I am sure you will give to them the full consideration which their undoubted importance demands.

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, located at New Haven, gives attention to a variety of important subjects. The work of the past year has included the analysis of commercial fertilizers and feeding stuffs; tests of the effects of nitrogen in fertilizers upon the growth of plants; studies of dairy products; tests of suspected butter in behalf of the State Dairy Commissioner; the introduction of methods of accurate testing of the value of milk in creameries; experiments upon tobacco culture; studies of the diseases of various

plants and the proper remedies, and investigations of the proteids of cereal and other seeds.

The Station has buildings, laboratories, and grounds, provided by the State. It receives annually from the United States Treasury $7,500, and from the State Treasury $8,000. It also receives sums from analysis fees as provided by law and from other sources, which amount at present to some $6,000 per annum.

Storrs Agricultural Experiment Station, located at Mansfield, is a department of the Storrs Agricultural College. The chemical and other abstract research is carried out at Wesleyan University, Middletown. During the past year its inquiries have been along the lines of field experimenting with fertilizers; observations of the growth of forage plants; feeding of sheep and milch cows; study of bacteria of milk and cream; experiments with the calorimeter; and in several other practical directions, including especially the food and nutrition of man. The Station is maintained by an annual appropriation of $7,500 from the Treasury of the United States, which is supplemented by material aid from private sources.

The success and influence of our Agricultural Experiment Stations are most gratifying. There are probably few subjects with which farm practice has to deal, and about which accurate experiments can give practical information, that the Experiment Stations of our country are not studying. They thus make the business of farming at once more profitable, more attractive and more elevating. Hence the majority of our Connecticut farmers—men distinguished for their practical intelligence—appreciate the value of this work and favor its extension. To the State of Connecticut belongs the honor of having established the first American Agricultural Experiment Station. The work of that institution was begun at Middletown in Wesleyan University in 1875. The example was speedily followed by other States, and subsequently the United States Government made the enterprise National by providing liberal appropriations for the establishment of Experiment Stations in all the States and Territories in the Union. Few scientific and educational movements have been so useful and so warmly appreciated by the country at large.

Investigations of Food Economy.—The nutritive value of different foods, and their proper preparation for the use of man, is a subject of vital interest to our people. Half the earnings of the wage-workers of Connecticut, indeed, more than half the incomes of the bread-winners of Christendom, are spent and must be spent for their food, and any information that enables the laborer to select his food according to its true nutritive value, and to prepare it in the most advantageous manner, must result in much saving of his hard-earned money, lightening his burdens and increasing the happiness of his home. The careful scientific investigation of the values and uses of food, and making them known to the people, is one of the purposes of the Experiment Stations. In this investigation, also, Connecticut takes the lead. The pioneer work in this line, as in the case of the Agricultural Experiment Stations, was begun at Wesleyan University and has been continued by the Storrs Experiment Station and in coöperation with several scientific departments of the United States Government. The fruits have been so valuable that other institutions have followed the example, and Congress has lately made a special appropriation for the distribution of such inquiries throughout the Union. What has been done in our State has been accomplished largely by private gift; but the extent and importance of the field thus auspiciously entered, call now for such examination of the facts of the situation as will determine whether it may not have become the duty of the State to provide for an early and considerable expansion of this work within its borders.

The Experiment Stations, Agricultural College, Board of Agriculture, and other Associations in our State, are doing much to popularize information of value to the farmer and the people at large. This is accomplished by publications, by lectures at meetings, and otherwise. It is worthy of note that the Education Extension movement, which is being earnestly furthered in Connecticut, has included work among our agricultural as well as our village and city communities.

Tuberculosis.—This disease has made considerable progress amongst the cattle of the State, 5 per cent., or about

10,000 head being, according to the judgment of the Commissioners on Diseases of Domestic Animals, now more or less affected. The provision and enforcement of adequate laws by adjoining States, have added greatly to the previously pressing need of action here.

Much very important information bearing upon this subject will be furnished you by the Commissioners.

Dairy Commission.—The last report was made as of April 1, 1894, and indicates that the laws against imitations and adulterations of dairy products have not only been strengthened, but that there has been increased efficiency in the enforcement of their provisions.

In closing his report, and with these facts in view, the Commissioner says: "We believe that soon the sale and manufacture of these imitation products will be fully regulated and adjusted with increased advantage to the dairymen and all interested in good government and public health."

An important decision by the Supreme Court of the United States has recently been rendered, affecting, in an important way, questions relating to State legislation on this subject. A full statement of the nature and effect of this decision will doubtless be presented by the Commissioner in the next report.

FISHERIES.

The work of the **Commissioners of Inland Fisheries** for the years 1893 and 1894 was chiefly devoted to increasing the supply of shad, salmon, lake and brook trout by artificial propagation.

State appropriations to the amount of $20,000 were made for the two years covered by the report, of which the unexpended balance is $2,306.31.

The State now owns three hatcheries from which fry of the kinds above enumerated were taken, to the large aggregate of 5,500,000, and placed in the various waters of the State.

The biennial report of the **Shell Fish Commissioners** presents many interesting facts. The oyster industry of the State has attained a magnitude and importance as surprising as it is gratifying. There are 319 owners of oyster grounds in

the State, and they have about 67,760 acres. Ten of these owners have about 29,000 acres. Taxes paid on oyster grounds during two years ending September 30, 1894, amounted to $13,544.91. In 1893-94, seventy steamers were engaged in the industry, and 268 vessels were licensed to work on natural beds. The Commissioners' financial statement for two years shows the excess of receipts over disbursements to be $6,134.46. The investment in the oyster business in the State is estimated at about $3,500,000, and the annual catch at about $1,250,000. The wages paid probably amount to at least from $250,000 to $300,000 per annum.

LABOR BUREAU.

Building and Loan Associations.—The report of the Commissioner gives a deservedly important place to the seventeen Building and Loan Associations of the State. The conservative methods now very generally adhered to by these associations are giving, thus far, very satisfactory results. The peculiar plans followed are intended to make them of especial value to working men.

Some additional legislation in the interests of these organizations, may be suggested by the Commissioner.

Industrial Depression.—Covering fifteen months prior to August 31, 1894, the report shows, as a result of the depression, that on the average, the industrial establishments of the State ran about two-thirds full time, employed about 85 per cent. of the full number generally employed, paid about 85 per cent. of the wages paid in 1892, with about three-fourths the normal output. The lowest point of depression reached was in January and July, 1894. A little more than one-half the establishments reported, reduced wages 10 per cent.

Trade and Industrial Education in technical schools is urged by the Bureau as a substitute for the apprenticeship system, now nearly obsolete. This matter is receiving much and deserved attention by European countries, touching, as it does most vitally, the interest of the mechanic.

Child Labor, in the opinion of the Commissioner, should be still further restricted, and to this end you will probably be asked to raise the age limit for child employment.

Decreased Hours of Labor, is a subject which is certainly worthy the attention it has received from the Bureau, and it is hoped that the interests of both working men and employers may be subserved by what is being done in this direction.

Factory Inspection.—The report of the Inspector of Factories for the year ending November 30, 1893, shows that the number of factories visited and inspected was 476, in which were employed an aggregate of 68,098 persons. In 222 of these establishments no changes were ordered; in the 256 remaining, the changes ordered numbered 566 and included 391 for better protection of employés from danger from machinery, 70 for increased safety in the operation of elevators, 66 for better sanitary conditions and 39 for various other purposes.

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

During the year ending December 1, 1894, the general health of the people of this State has been maintained at a little better standard than the average of the last five years, especially when taking into account the growing tendency toward concentration of population in cities. The greater attention now being given in populous places to administration of public hygiene, improved systems for the disposal of sewage and the furnishing of good water supplies, have doubtless brought about this improved standard. No severe epidemic has visited the State during the past year, and while the usual zymotic diseases have prevailed in many towns, the mortality from this cause has decreased.

The new system of sanitary administration enacted by the General Assembly of 1893, has, in many respects, seemed to work well, and to have been fruitful of good results. It is quite probable, however, that some modifications and improvements of the law will be found necessary.

The same is true with regard to the Medical Practice Act, which was also passed by the last General Assembly. It will, however, require several years to practically demonstrate its advantages and disadvantages.

In the collection and collation of vital statistics, this State has, for many years, exercised much care. The desirableness

of preserving a correct public record of births, marriages and deaths, cannot be easily over-estimated. From the very full report of the State Board of Health for the year 1893, it appears that the whole number of births in the State was 20,296; of deaths, 14,901; so that the natural increase of population by excess of births over deaths, was 5,395, or 815 more than the previous year. In the same time the number of marriages was 6,459. As the periods for which reports are made, correspond with the calendar years, information for the year 1894 is, as yet, in large part, necessarily uncollected.

The amount drawn from the State by the Board for the year ending June 30, 1893, was, - - - -	$5,500 00
And for the year ending June 30, 1894, was - - -	7,000 00
	$12,500 00

Of these amounts $5,000 in each year was the regular appropriation for the expenses, and the balance a special appropriation to be used for examination into the pollution of streams in the State.

CHARITIES.

The State Board of Charities consists of five members —three men and two women. Its statutory duties and powers consist of regular visits of inspection to the reformatory, penal and charitable institutions in the State, and the suggestion of such changes and improvements as seem desirable. The Board is also charged with the collection of information and statistics relating to pauperism and the administration and operation of the poor laws and State charities. There are at present in the State 167 institutions of the character above indicated, as follows:

11 for criminals,	1 for the feeble-minded.
17 for the sick and injured,	1 for the blind,
8 for the insane,	1 for old soldiers, sailors, etc.,
8 for dependent children,	15 for the aged,
1 each for boys and girls,	13 for orphans,
2 for the deaf and dumb,	88 for paupers.

The amount furnished by the State for such of the above as received State aid was $518,454 in 1893, and $573,999 in 1894. The amount paid by the towns for the relief of

their poor was $688,962 in 1891, and $736,998 in 1892. During the last year there was a decided increase in both the extent and the vigor of the work of the Board.

Your attention will of course be given to the recommendations made by the Board; but I ask your especial attention to that one in which reference is made to the establishment of State Reformatories for a certain class of the young of both sexes, who are too old for commitment to the schools at Meriden and Middletown, and who must, under existing conditions, be sent to our jails and prison, and subjected to the evil influences of the most hardened and debased of criminals.

It is observed that one or more institutions are receiving financial aid from the State without being required to account for the expenditure thereof. I would respectfully recommend that such changes or amendments be made in the law as will require all institutions and organizations receiving money from the State to make regular reports to the State.

The expenses of the Board for the two years ending September 30, 1894, were $4,699.73, of which all but $576.54 was expended in the work of the last year.

The Connecticut Hospital for the Insane, at Middletown, completed its first twenty-five years of service in 1894. During that time 6,773 patients have been admitted, of whom 1,556 have died, 3,958 have been discharged, and 1,580 were present at the close of the year ending June 30, 1894. Of those discharged 1,595 were recovered, 1,007 improved, and 1,235 remained stationary. Of those who died, about 300 were above seventy years of age, and nearly twice that number had been deprived of reason for from five to fifty years.

The number remaining in the Hospital June 30, 1894, was forty-five more than one year previous, and seventy-four more than two years previous.

By reason of the low prices of the necessaries of life, the Board of Trustees was able to reduce the price of the board and care of the patients to $2.80 per week, which has been the rate since April 1, 1893.

The receipts and expenses as reported in the Treasurer's account are as follows:

RECEIPTS.

Year ending June 30, 1893,	$292,353 98
June 30, 1894,	228,583 25

EXPENDITURES.

Year ending June 30, 1893,	$246,232 47
June 30, 1894,	314,268 11

The number of patients now in the Hospital is 140 beyond the capacity of the several buildings, but the completion of the new building authorized by the General Assembly at its last session, and now well advanced, will soon relieve the crowded condition. This new building will have cost about $96,000, leaving a balance of $4,000 to be applied for furnishing. As stated elsewhere, the practice of sending convicts who become insane, from the State Prison to the Hospital, cannot be too decidedly condemned and should be discontinued at the earliest practicable date. There is also urgent need of change in the present statutes providing for the care of those convicted of minor offenses, and those held awaiting trial in the jails, who become insane. The statute under which accused persons may be acquitted on the ground of insanity, and committed to the Hospital, is not sufficiently explicit in its provisions, with reference to the determination of their mental condition. It must be evident to any thoughtful mind that the benevolent and philanthropic purposes for which the Hospital was created never included that of making it a receptacle for those whose insanity has not been determined by competent medical authority. The large outlays in recent years for buildings for the benefit of the insane poor have met the need in that direction to such an extent, and in so creditable a manner that special appropriations for added facilities, can be, in larger part, if not wholly omitted.

The Connecticut School for Boys, for the fifteen months ending September 30, 1893, and the year ending September 30, 1894, received by commitment, 131 boys; there were returned on old commitments and by themselves, 118, and as boarders, 8; making a total of 539. The number who

were discharged was 479, of whom 29 were placed at trades, 1 sent to the hospital, 6 boarders dismissed, 2 have died and 441 have been returned to parents and friends, leaving in the School at the end of the period named 481, an increase of 60.

Covering the same time the receipts were - - -	$156,861 87
The amount of which paid by the State was - -	140,517 81
The expenses of the School were - - - -	158,956 20

The whole number of commitments to the School since its establishment in 1851, not including boarders, is 5,294, of whom 2,118 were sent there for vagrancy, truancy and incorrigibility, 2,655 for theft and other offenses, the punishment of which might have been imprisonment in the State Prison, while the remainder were convicted of other minor offenses. These figures suggest the propriety of considering the question whether the beneficent work of this institution may not be impeded by bringing into close relations so large a class of criminals with those whose viciousness and misfortune are largely if not wholly due to their home environment.

Of those who have left the School, 941 have gone out by expiration of sentence, 610 have been placed with farmers and at various trades, considerably more than one-half have been returned to parents, and by reason of their instruction in the School have generally been able to secure good positions.

The Connecticut Industrial School for Girls has just reached the end of its twenty-fifth year of undoubted usefulness. It furnishes a home to which girls between the ages of eight and sixteen years, who are orphans, or who, from their surroundings or otherwise, are subject to vicious influences, may be committed until twenty-one years of age.

The number of girls received from the beginning to October 1, 1894, was 1,150, of whom 237 were still in the School. During the two years ending on the date mentioned, 235 girls were received and 236 were placed out.

The amount received by the School from the State for the year ending September 30, 1893, was - - -	$37,355 62
And for the year ending September 30, 1894, - - -	39,934 37

The last General Assembly appropriated $18,000 for the use of the School, and with this money a new wing, with accommodations for thirty-four girls, was added to one of the buildings; the hall used for devotional and other exercises was enlarged, and a library-room and a dining-room were provided.

The record of the Visiting Agent shows that of all the girls placed out during the last eight years, ninety per cent. are self-supporting and leading useful lives. This fact must be a source of great satisfaction to those having the welfare of these young people at heart.

The Soldiers' Home at Noroton is reported upon by the Adjutant General. This institution was founded by Benj. Fitch in 1864, and is open to the indigent soldiers and marines of Connecticut who served in the War of the Rebellion. The report shows that the good work of providing a pleasant home for veterans has been fully maintained during the past year. The Home was turned over to the State by the trustees in 1887, and various purchases of land and appropriations for the erection and improvement of buildings have been made by the State from time to time. The general management of the Home is vested by law in "The Soldiers' Hospital Board of Connecticut," consisting of the Governor, Adjutant General, and Surgeon General, with three honorably discharged veteran soldiers—residents of this State—all holding office for two years.

There are thirteen buildings with accommodations for 340 beds, which are all taken, twenty soldiers being on the "waiting list" for want of room.

You will probably be asked for an appropriation for the enlargement of the present buildings and the erection of others to meet the demands now made.

The expenses of the Home in drafts upon the Comptroller have been for the year ending June 30, 1893, - -	$50,000 00
For the year ending June 30, 1894, - - - - -	70,000 00
	$120,000 00
The aggregate of special appropriations made by the General Assembly for the purchase of land and the erection of buildings since the Home has been under State control has been - - - - - - -	$85,000 00

STATE PRISON.

The reports of the directors and warden for the fourteen months ending October 1, 1894, indicate a satisfactory administration of the affairs of this institution. Some changes are suggested by the directors, the most important of which is that with reference to special provision on the prison grounds for the detention and proper treatment of insane convicts. The present practice of sending such convicts to the Hospital for the Insane at Middletown, is accompanied by so many strongly objectionable features, which would disappear under the plan suggested, that the duty of action appears to be clear and imperative. The question of providing the requisite facilities for separating the young from the older and more hardened criminals, deserves your careful attention.

August 1, 1893, there were in the institution 316 convicts, with 27 men and one woman acting as watchmen and officers. Since that time, there have been 217 commitments, and 5 have been received from the Connecticut Hospital for the Insane. Of these,

128 were discharged upon expiration of sentence,
1 was pardoned,
10 were taken to the Hospital for the Insane,
18 have died,

leaving 381 prisoners September 30, 1894, an increase of 65 since the last report. Of this number, 41 were between the ages of 16 and 20 years when committed, and 346 were in for the first offense, emphasizing the necessity, elsewhere alluded to, of measures for classification and reformation.

The disbursements of the institution for the fourteen months were - - - - - - - - -	$93,937 56
Out of which the State property was increased in value, -	26,051 65
Leaving for actual expenses, - - - - - -	$67,885 91
Of which amount the State paid - - - - -	27,944 74
And there was received for convict labor, - - -	38,755 26

and the balance was made up from various sources.

So far as the financial result of the employment of convict labor is concerned, it may be properly considered acceptable; but such employment, in so far as it came into competition with honest workmen outside prison walls is, to my mind, to be regretted and deplored.

On the general question of punishment for crime, I confess to the conviction that some crimes call for different and more feared methods than those now practiced. The State prison and the jails have few terrors for a large percentage of those who commit crime; indeed, it is not infrequently the case that crime is committed for the express purpose of securing comfortable quarters and fair food without risk of much real hardship.

A proposed law establishing a State Reformatory will come before you by continuation from the last General Assembly.

JUDICIARY.

Our courts are giving prompt attention to all cases brought before them, and retain fully, the merited confidence of the people.

A Common Pleas court has been established during the past year in New London County.

The expenses of the Judiciary of the State for the year ending June 30, 1894, amounted to $382,691.44, and $339,063.82 for the preceding year.

TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY.

The Commissioners reported to the last General Assembly the completion of the field work under an arrangement with the United States Geological Survey, and an appropriation of $5,000 was then made for printing, publishing, and distributing the maps of the State.

Two thousand sets of the atlas sheets have been printed by special arrangement with the United States Government, and a wall map of the State, upon half the scale of the sheets, has also been prepared. The total cost of this work has been approximately $3,400.

The excellence and accuracy of the maps is highly commended by engineers and experts. The recommendation of the Commissioners that these maps be placed in the common schools of the State to the extent, at least, of supplying each with the sheet or sheets covering the territory nearest its own locality, will be presented for your consideration.

EDUCATION.

The Common Schools.—The State has ever been mindful of the great value of providing its citizens with a good education, and for that purpose liberal appropriations have been made from time to time. The work of the State Board of Education has been directed to securing the best results for the amounts paid out. In its report will be found, in detail, the various items of the management of this department.

The expenses of the State Board of Education, for salaries, office expenses, teachers' meetings, examinations, etc., were, for the year 1893, - - - - - - $23,409 02
" 1894, - - - - - - 25,812 90

The amounts received by towns and districts for the maintenance of the public schools have been:

	1893.	1894.
From the State (Civil List and School Fund), - - - - - - -	$377,570 25	$381,278 25
From all other sources, - - -	1,768,656 74	2,128,450 66
Total, - - - - - - -	$2,146,226 99	$2,509,728 91

The amounts paid have been:

	1893.	1894.
For new buildings, - - - -	$248,232 19	$464,107 01
For ordinary expenses, - - -	2,093,119 24	2,178,520 69
Total, - - - - - - -	$2,341,351 43	$2,642,627 70
The amount of district indebtedness was - - - - - - -	$1,887,227 73	$1,843,031 78
New school houses were erected at a cost of - - - - - - -	$414,183 81	$316,914 10
The value of buildings and sites was -	$7,508,536 49	$8,042,411 12
Paid by the State for apparatus, an equal amount having been raised by districts, - - - - - -	$6,505 00	$6,185 00
Number of persons between 4 and 16 years of age, - - - - - -	167,809	169,457

The law requiring the establishment of evening schools in towns and districts with 10,000 or more population resulted in the maintenance of 24 in 1893 and 43 in 1894.

Military Instruction.—This question is receiving much attention throughout the country, particularly from members of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Boards of Education of many of the prominent cities. There is much to

commend it, not only on the ground of the physical development and training of our youth, which can be secured in no other way, but also by reason of the benefit accruing to the State from such training.

Normal Schools.—There are now three Normal and Training Schools in the State. The first and oldest, at New Britain, established in 1850; the second at Willimantic, opened in September, 1889; and the third at New Haven, opened in September, 1893. These schools have graduated 1,409 young men and women trained in the art of teaching, of whom 655 are now engaged in that pursuit. These institutions are fulfilling the important purpose for which they were created, as will more fully appear from the detailed reports which will be laid before you.

Paid by the State for maintenance, 1893, - - -	$53,173 48
" " " 1894, - - -	66,841 68
For new buildings during last year, at Willimantic, -	51,333 83
" " " " New Haven, -	20,546 56

CONNECTICUT NATIONAL GUARD.

The uniformed volunteer militia of the State, as shown by the report of the Adjutant-General, is organized into four regiments and two separate companies of infantry, one battery of light artillery, one machine gun battery, one brigade signal corps and one division of naval militia, comprising 202 commissioned officers and 2,652 enlisted men.

The Governor's Guards consist of two foot companies and two horse companies, with 25 officers and 347 enlisted men.

The cost of maintaining this force has been, for 1893, $133,910.93, and for 1894, $169,613.58. In addition land has been purchased in Hartford and New Haven for armory purposes and at Niantic for camp use, by a commission, at a cost of $13,650.

During the past year the Division of Naval Militia was uniformed and equipped; the brigade was encamped at Niantic eight days, while in 1893, the encampment was for six days; necessary repairs to the State armories have been made; uniforms have required much repairing and many unserviceable ones have been replaced by new; improvements have been made upon the State Camp ground by the

addition of a rifle range and in grading. These account for the large increase in the expenses of this department over the previous year. Without offering criticism, the expenditures having been undoubtedly considered as needful and proper, the hope is expressed that an important reduction will be made in this direction without impairing the condition or efficiency of the Guard.

The law passed in 1893 made many important changes, and will doubtless be found to require some amendment. Under its provisions, the Commander-in-Chief is required to order the entire brigade into camp each year. The law should be so changed as to allow the exercise of discretionary authority to order the whole or a part, as he may deem to be best for the interests of the service.

While the present force is believed to be ample for the needs of the State, it has been clearly demonstrated by the recent experience of other States, that Connecticut can not afford to allow the efficiency of her National Guard to be impaired.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

It remains for me to recommend to your consideration measures touching subjects not yet discussed or referred to.

Improved Highways.—An active and extensive movement in favor of better roads is already in progress in several other States, and is fully justified by the probable results of early, favorable and efficient, though reasonably prudent State action. We ought to keep fully up with neighboring States in this as in other important movements in which are involved questions of vital interest in their relations to the prosperity and comfort of our people. Views differ widely as to plans, and only through careful inquiry and perhaps extended experiments, can safe and permanently satisfactory conclusions be reached.

Secret Ballot.—The present law enables the voter to follow his own preference as to men and measures in casting his ballot without allowing any other person to know how he votes; while at the same time its provisions are such that the vote-seller can furnish fairly clear evidence to the vote-buyer that the bargain between them has been observed.

The evils that have befallen the State under the law of 1889 ought to be rendered impossible hereafter by such action during the present session as may be needful to that end.

What is known as the "blanket ballot" system (for the adoption of which an earnest effort was made six years ago), or some form of voting machinery of which very ingenious, and, it is claimed, efficient examples are now to be found, may meet the requirements of the situation. It is most earnestly recommended that you give thorough consideration to this subject, involving as it does the quality and durability of the very foundations of free government.

A bill and two substitutes relating to this subject come to you by continuation from the last session of the General Assembly.

Corrupt Practices Act.—Any secret ballot law, in order that its advantages may be fully secured, needs to contain or be reënforced by such statutes as will provide the surest methods of enforcing its provisions, by inflicting adequate penalties for their violation. Efficient enactments have been provided in other States and in some other countries, covering these and other important points relating to elections. Two bills on this subject come over to you by continuation from the last session of the General Assembly. Permit me to urge thoughtful attention to providing, through the adoption of one of these proposed laws, if deemed adequate, or by a new and better scheme, such added safeguards to the purity of the ballot as will afford the utmost degree of security now attainable.

License.—Abuses have crept into the present system of executing the License Law, especially with reference to the prices of licenses and decisions upon applications, to such an extent, that a strong sentiment has been aroused in favor of abolishing the office of County Commissioner and referring this portion of its business to the Superior Court. Whether it is best to adopt this course or proceed in some more moderate way, is a question for your careful investigation; but there is little room for doubt that the number and cost of licenses should be definitely fixed by law, according to population or otherwise, so that neither Commissioners nor Courts would possess the power, now held by the former, to